

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 20221 231029Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PRS-01 HA-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 PM-05 /057 W
-----001698 231251Z /10 S
P 230915Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9639

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 20221

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, RP
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS: LIST OF DETAINEES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE

REF: MANILA 19963

1. THIS MORNING (DECEMBER 23) EMBASSY RECEIVED FROM DEFENSE SECRETARY ENRILE'S OFFICE A LIST OF 859 DETAINEES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE. COVERING LETTER BY UNDERSECRETARY CRISOL STATES THAT TEMPORARY RELEASE OF PERSONS ON LIST HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED BY DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE TO PRESIDENT MARCOS AS OF DECEMBER 22. LATER IN DAY EMBASSY RECEIVED SAME LIST TRANSMITTED BY DFA DIPLOMATIC NOTE. WE BELIEVE MARCOS MAY PLAN TO ANNOUNCE RELEASE WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS AS GESTURE OF CHRISTMAS SEASON MAGNANIMITY. (NOTE: RELEASE OF VIRTUALLY ALL MARTIAL LAW DETAINEES TO DATE HAS BEEN "TEMPORARY". THIS MEANS PERSONS RELEASED ARE NOT CLEARED OF PENDING CHARGES.)

2. INITIAL REVIEW OF LIST REVEALS IT CONTAINS AT LEAST SOME KNOWN POLITICAL DETAINEES. FACT THAT GENERALLY ACCEPTED FIGURE FOR POLITICAL DETAINEES IS AROUND 500 (FIGURE WHICH MARCOS HIMSELF USED) SUGGESTS THAT MANY ON LIST ARE IN FOR OTHER OFFENSES. MOST PROMINENT POLITICAL DETAINEE ON LIST IS PLAYWRIGHT BEHN CERVANTES, WHO WAS ARRESTED OCTOBER 26, 1977. (MANILA 17939). WE HAVE IDENTIFIED EIGHT OTHER NAMES OF PERSONS LISTED BY AMRSP'S TASK
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FORCE ON DETAINEES AS "POLITICAL PRISONERS." SIX OF THESE APPARENTLY WERE ARRESTED IN SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1977.

3. WE WILL CONSULT WITH CHURCH AND OTHER SOURCES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE MORE COMPLETE ANALYSIS OF LIST.

4. AMBASSADOR HAS RESPONDED TO SECRETARY ENRILE,

ACKNOWLEDGING LIST AND STATING THAT HE IS CERTAIN
RELEASE OF THOSE DETAINED UNDER MARTIAL LAW WOULD BE
WELCOMED BY US GOVERNMENT.

5. COPIES OF LIST ARE BEING POUCHED EA/PHL.
NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770479-0900
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From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771222/aaaaasbd.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 13c1cafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 139775
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS: LIST OF DETAINEES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE
TAGS: SHUM, RP
To: STATE
Type: TE
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